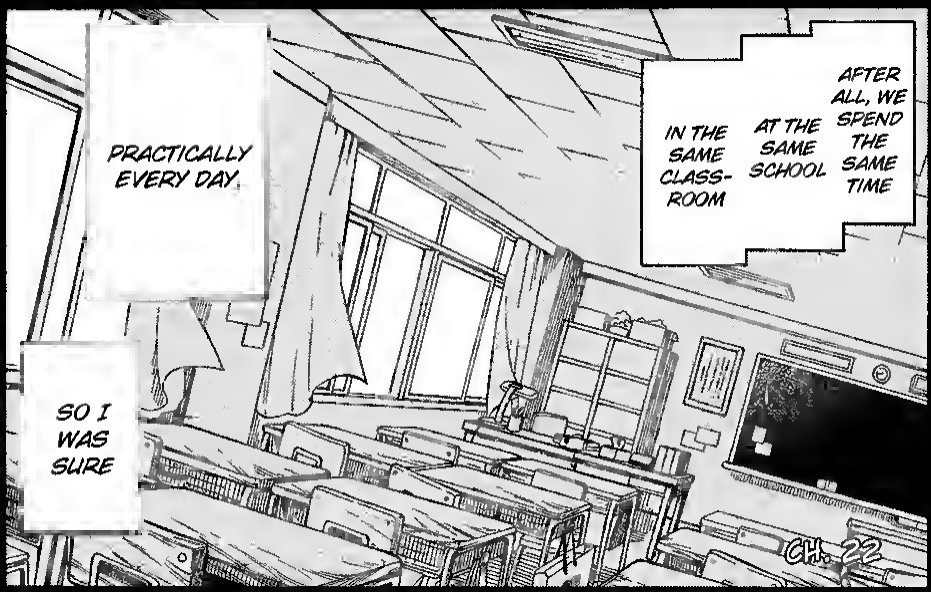
Hachimitsu Scans
~sweeter than honey~
hachimitsu-scans.blogspot.com

I HAD THOUGHT THAT IT WAS SOMETHING SIMPLE.



Flip
I want this!
THAT'S...
Haa...
WHAT I HAD THOUGHT...

CH. 22 ★ GROUP OF THREE

ナデ〜…
NOW MAE-CHIN'S EVEN WORRIED ABOUT US...
You three haven't been together recently, but did something happen?
They're just having a little fight!
AND I DON'T WANT TO WORRY ANYONE ELSE IN CLASS BY ASKING THEM FOR ADVICE...
PUSH
PUSH
NOW FOR TODAY'S NEWS FROM JULY 7TH.
TSUKASA,
IT'S YOUR TURN TO CLEAN THE BATH TODAY.

'KAY...
...HAVE WASHIO-SAN AND KOTOOKA-SAN...
STILL NOT... MADE UP?
.....!
I WAS GONNA TRY TO GET THEM TO MAKE UP...
...PRETTY MUCH.
THOSE GUYS ARE SUCH A HANDFUL!

"I CAN'T STAND THAT PART OF YOU, EITHER!!"
...BUT MEDDLING LIKE THAT... WOULD JUST ANNOY THEM...
BESIDES... KOTOOKA JUST WENT WAY TOO FAR.
DO I FEEL THIS WAY... BECAUSE I LIKE WASHIO...?
AM I... BIASED TOWARDS HER...?
BUT EVEN WASHIO...
JUST FOCUSES ON KOTOOKA...
ギュ...
...YEAH!

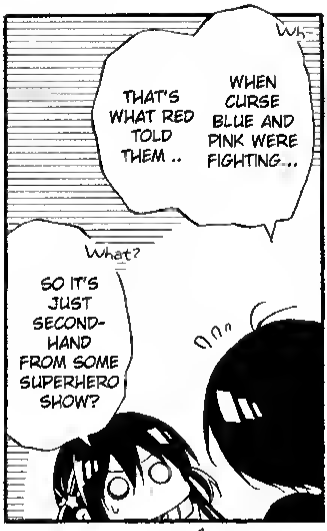
WASHIO LIKES KOTOOKA,
SO SHOULDN'T SHE DO SOMETHING HERSELF EVENTUALLY?
AM I BEING HEARTLESS?
BUT I JUST END UP THINKING THAT WAY.

IF NEITHER OF THEM...
WILL LISTEN TO ME BECAUSE THEY'RE FIGHTING...
AND IT'S
WASHIO'S FAULT THAT I EVEN FOUND OUT ABOUT IT...

THEN...
THERE'S NO POINT FOR ME TO EVEN BE AROUND THEM.
...THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL.

Umm
THAT THEY DON'T KNOW...
WHAT THEY SHOULD DO...
...IT'S NOT JUST...
.....!
SO,
I WANT YOU TO BE THERE FOR ME.
...IF I WAS IN THEIR SHOES...
IT WOULD BE REASSURING... TO HAVE YOU AROUND.
SO
I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE LONELY.
...YEAH,
I HAVE A SISTER COMPLEX.
Th~
THERE YOU GO AGAIN SAYING SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU SOUND LIKE YOU HAVE A SISTER COMPLEX!

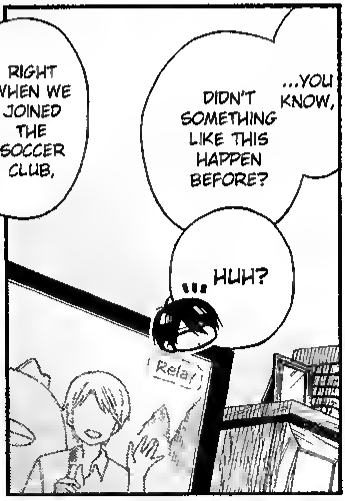
YOU SHOULD JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT, TSUKASA.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
I'LL ALWAYS BE ON YOUR SIDE.
.....!
SU-BARU...
Hmm.
OR HOW ABOUT YOU JUST FORCE THEM TO APOLOGIZE TO EACH OTHER?
APOL-OGIZ-ING TO EACH OTHER DIRECTLY WILL MAKE THEM FEEL BETTER...
You're giving decent advice...
WHO TOLD YOU THAT...?
HUH ...?


Wh
THAT'S WHAT RED TOLD THEM ..
WHEN CURSE BLUE AND PINK WERE FIGHTING...
What?
SO IT'S JUST SECOND-HAND FROM SOME SUPERHERO SHOW?

WHO...

Bu
BUT I THINK THAT'D BE WAY COOLER
AND TOTALLY SOMETHING YOU'D DO!

AND THEN I GOT DROPPED FROM THE TEAM, SO I WAS REALLY FRUSTRATED.
SOME OF THE GUYS SAID THEY DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY WITH A GIRL,
RIGHT WHEN WE JOINED THE SOCCER CLUB,


...YOU KNOW, DIDN'T SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPEN BEFORE?
...HUH?
Relax!

THAT'D BE WAY COOLER
AND TOTALLY SOMETHING YOU'D DO!
hmm...
THEN JUST GET BETTER THAN THOSE GUYS
TO MAKE THEM SAY THEY WANT TO PLAY WITH YOU!
...DID I SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I JUST REMEMBERED!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THAT!
...? I don't remember that...
...AND HERE I WAS
THINKING THAT IT WAS JUST ME ALWAYS HELPING HIM OUT...
I SHOULD JUST DO WHAT I WANT... HUH...?

NO ONE DOES ANYTHING,
WHAT IF AT THIS RATE
NOT TALKING TO EACH OTHER BECOMES THE NORM,
AND TIME JUST PASSES US BY?
GRADUATE,
GO ON TO DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS,
AND THEN WE BECOME THIRD-YEARS.
WHAT IF THE SECOND SEMESTER STARTS.

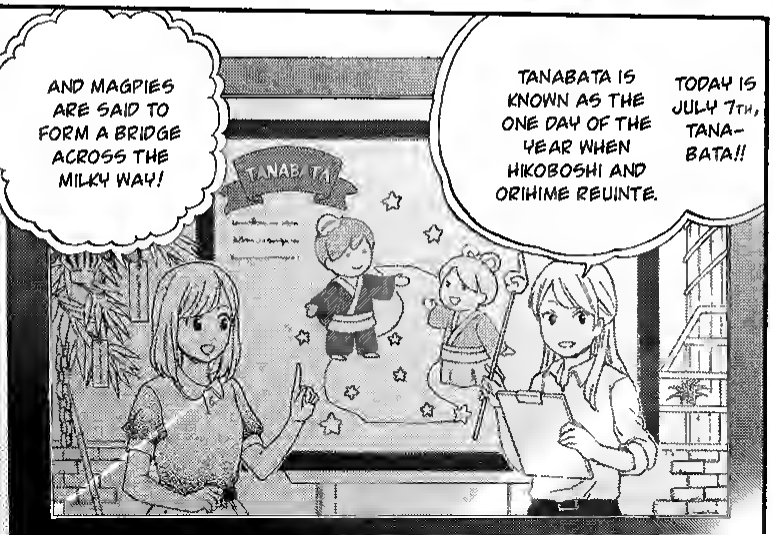
AND THEN PART WAYS JUST LIKE THAT?

ONCE WE'RE ALL GROWN UP... THAT PROMISE WE MADE TO GO ON THAT TRIP TOGETHER...
AND THEN...
WOULD JUST COME TO NOTHING...
THEY...
DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN EITHER... RIGHT?
"I WANT THE THREE OF US TO HANG OUT TOGETHER."
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THAT...
...YEAH,

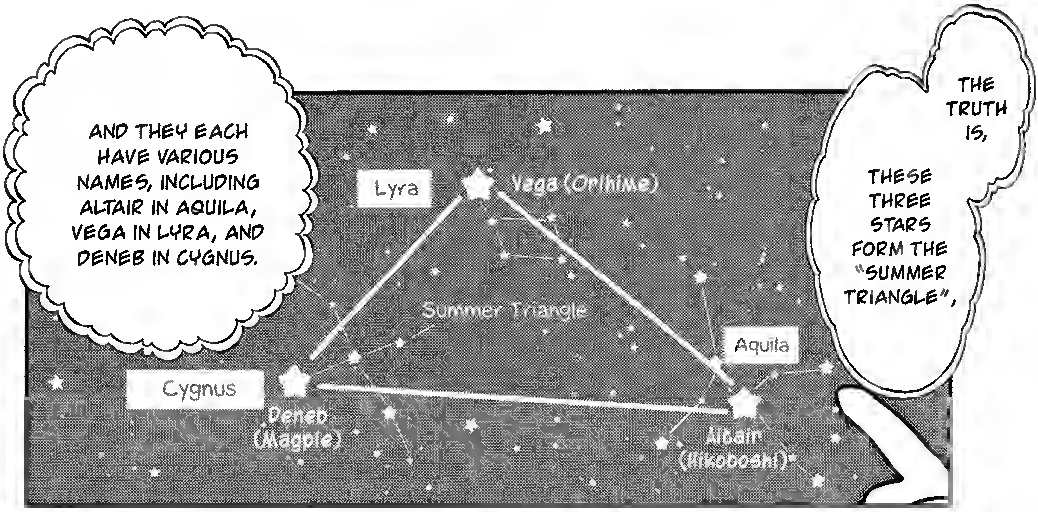
BAM
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
?
CLICK
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle
THUD

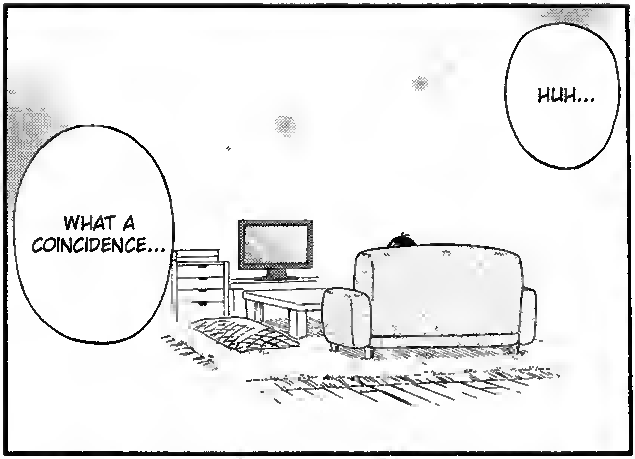
I'M GOING OUT!!!
HUH...? RIGHT NOW...?
I HAVE A KEY,
SO LOCK THE DOOR!!
バタン

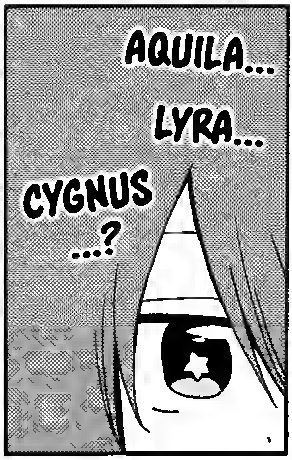
.....
SEE YOU SOON...
TSUKASA.


TODAY IS JULY 7TH, TANA-BATA!!
TANABATA IS KNOWN AS THE ONE DAY OF THE YEAR WHEN HIKOBOSHI AND ORIHIME REUNITE.
AND MAGPIES ARE SAID TO FORM A BRIDGE ACROSS THE MILKY WAY!

NOW THEN...

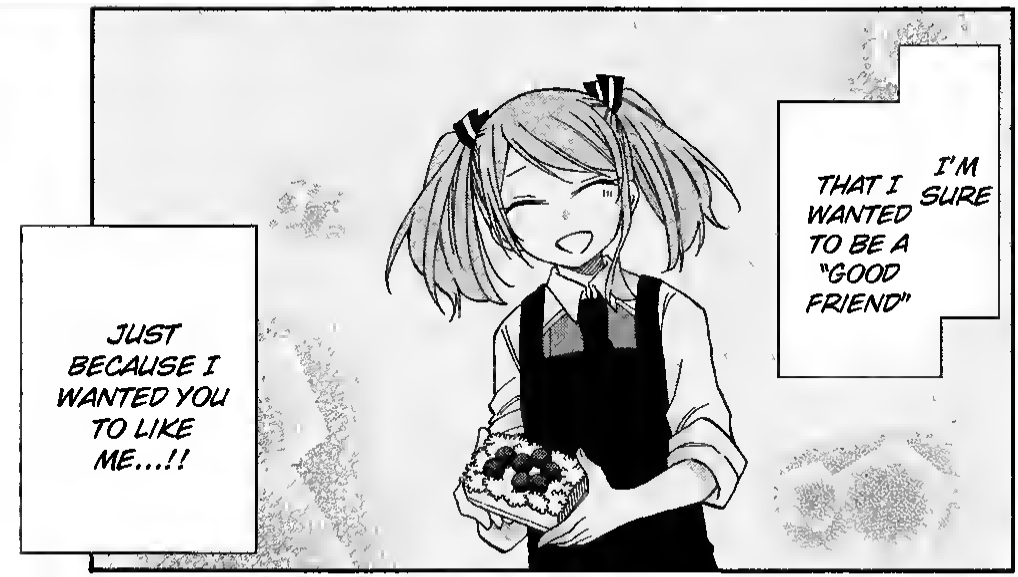






TL note: The Japanese names for Aquila and Lyra are "Washi-za" and "Koto-za". The Japanese name for Cygnus is "Hakuchou-za", and the kanji for "hakuchou" can alternatively be read as "shirotori".

I HELPED YOU MAKE THAT CHOCO-LATE
AND SUPP-ORTED YOU
BECAUSE I ALSO WANTED TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.
BUT
THE TRUTH IS
THE TRUTH IS...
FROM THE START,
I REALLY AM DIS-HON-EST.


I'M SURE THAT I WANTED TO BE A "GOOD FRIEND"
JUST BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO LIKE ME...!!

I WANTED TO BE YOUR "SPECIAL" FRIEND...!!
...BUT...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THINKING THAT...!?
!
ガシャ
あっ

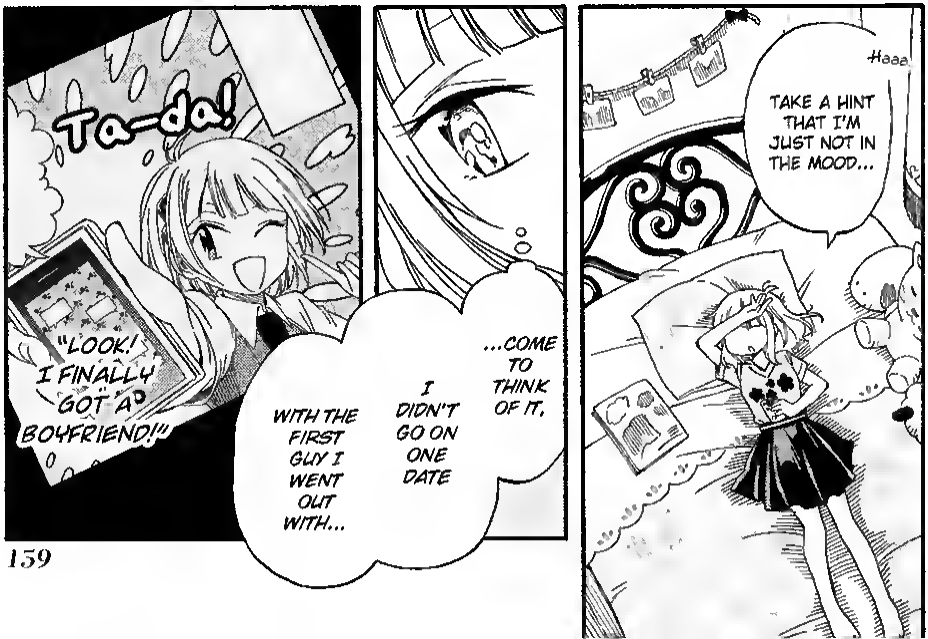
ロ。!...
I ALREADY... KNOW THAT...
WASHIO ONLY... SEES KOTOOKA AS "SPECIAL"...
DRIP
DRIP
COMPARED TO KOTOOKA...
I WANT TO BE A DIFFERENT KIND OF "SPECIAL"...
AT THE VERY LEAST,
SO IN THAT CASE...

THAT'S...
MY WISH...

KOTOOKA

WHAT?
YOU COULDN'T GET THE MOVIE TICKETS?
THAT'S TOO BAD...
THEN FORGET ABOUT THAT DATE.

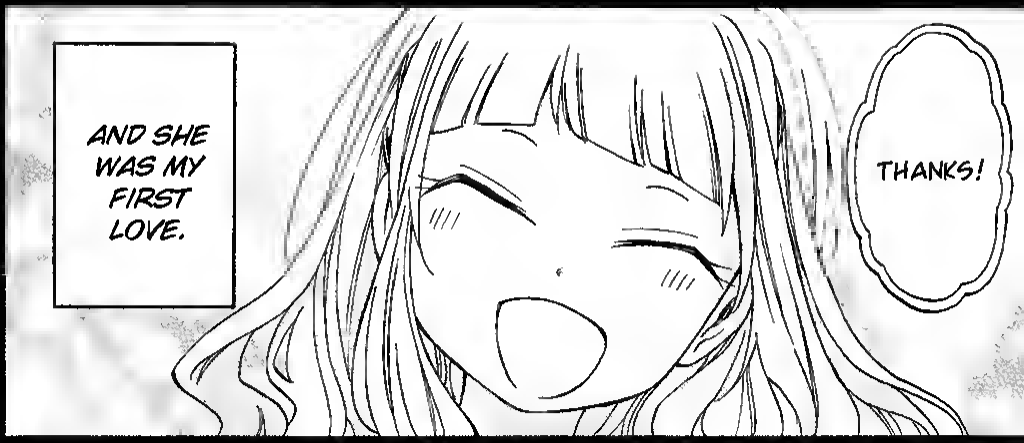
YEAH, YEAH.
THEN I'M HANGING UP.
Saitou-kun
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? WE'LL DO IT ANOTHER DAY.
NO WAY! I WAS IN THE MOOD FOR A MOVIE!
...HUH?


Ta-da!
"LOOK! I FINALLY GOT A BOYFRIEND!"
WITH THE FIRST GUY I WENT OUT WITH...
I DIDN'T GO ON ONE DATE
...COME TO THINK OF IT,
Haaa
TAKE A HINT THAT I'M JUST NOT IN THE MOOD...

LET'S BREAK UP
YOU KNOW WHY I'M SAYING THIS, RIGHT?
I CAN TELL.. THAT YOU'RE NOT EVEN INTO ME
SO EVEN IF WE GO OUT...
IT MAKES ME FEEL.. PRETTY LONELY
...I FELT...
...A LOT
LONELIER THAN HIM...
ㄅㄧㄤ ㄅㄧㄤ
ㄅㄧㄤ
MORN-ING!
SACCHAN! AN-CHAN!

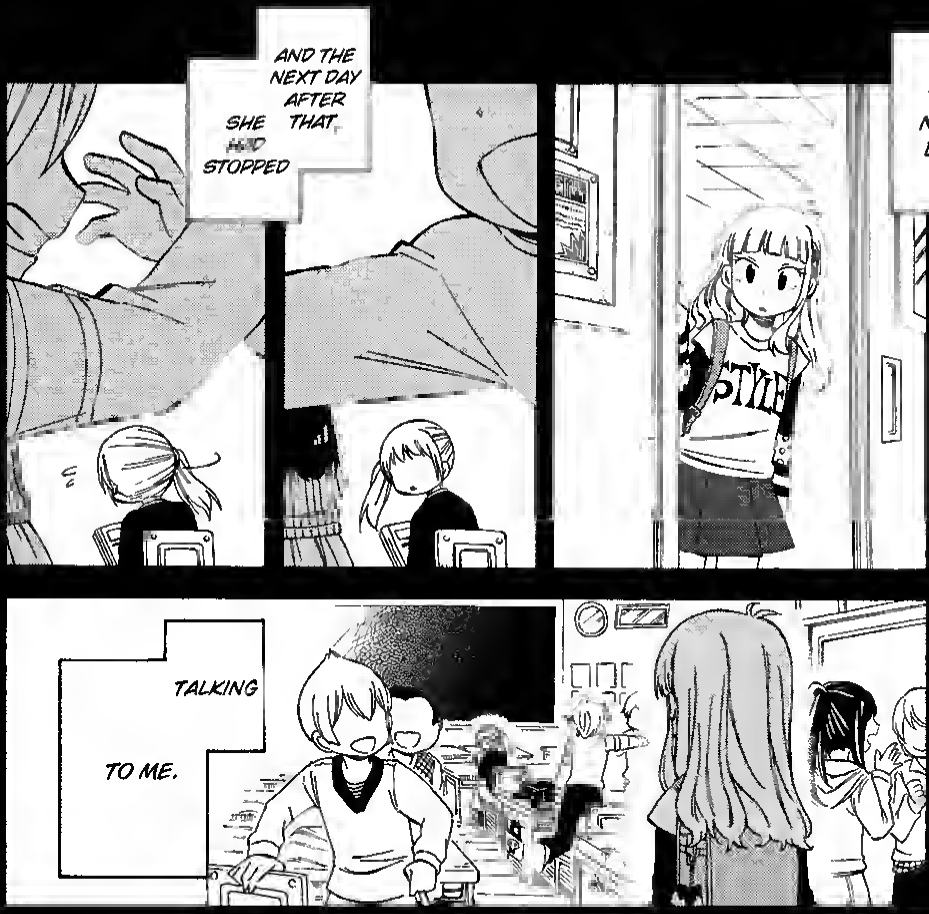
MORN-
ING,
MI-
CHAN!
I HAD TWO REALLY CLOSE FRIENDS IN GRADE SCHOOL.
WE WERE A "GROUP OF THREE"
THAT WAS ALWAYS TOGETHER.
ONE OF THOSE TWO WAS SACCHAN...
MY HAIR WAS ALL OVER THE PLACE WHEN I WOKE UP!

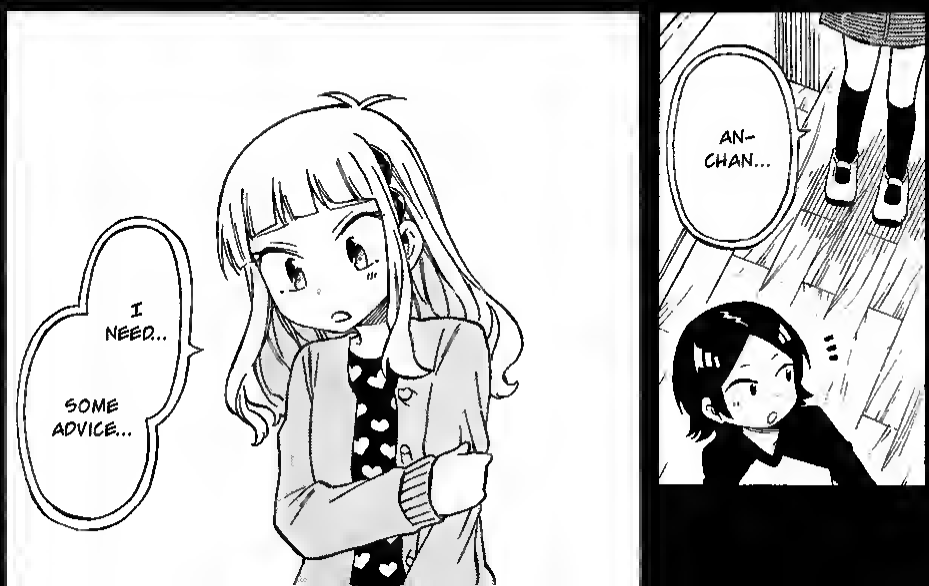
I'M SO JEALOUS THAT YOUR HAIR IS ALWAYS SO FLUFFY, MI-CHAN!
Ehhh?
THERE'S NOTHING REALLY THAT GOOD ABOUT HAVING NATURALLY WAVY HAIR
SHE WAS A NICE GIRL WHO WAS ALWAYS SMILING,
WHY? YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE!


THANKS!
AND SHE WAS MY FIRST LOVE.

I WONDERED IF I WAS WEIRD AT FIRST,
World-famous artist comes out as gay!!
BUT WHEN I LOOKED IT UP, I REALIZED THAT THERE WASN'T ANYTHING WEIRD ABOUT IT.

SO I TOLD HER
HOW I FELT,
BUT SACCHAN DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.


AND THE NEXT DAY AFTER THAT,
SHE HAD STOPPED
THE NEXT DAY,
TALKING
TO ME.


I NEED...
SOME ADVICE...
AN-CHAN...

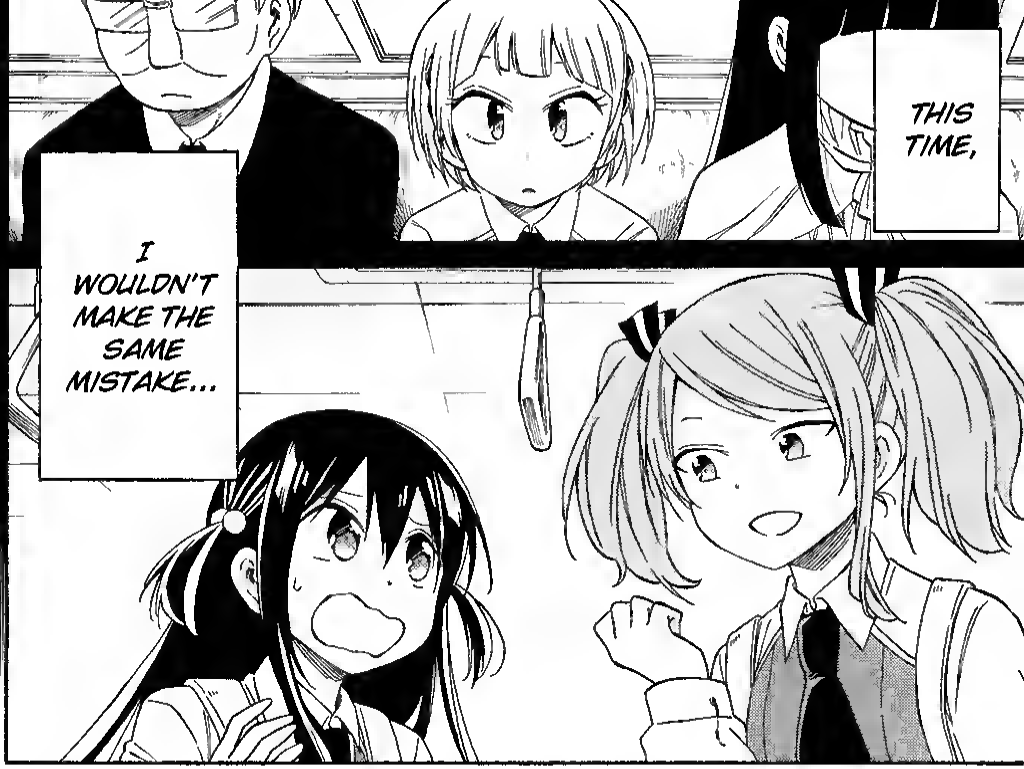
AT ANY RATE, YOU WANT TO TALK TO SACCHAN, RIGHT?
ALL RIGHT! JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!!
HUH!?
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED!?
SO THAT'S WHY YOU TWO STOPPED TALKING...!
I was afraid that you two got in a fight!
BUT... SO THERE REALLY ARE CASES OF GIRLS FALLING IN LOVE WITH OTHER GIRLS...
I THOUGHT THAT STUFF ONLY HAPPENED IN THINGS LIKE MANGA!!
That's kinda amazing!!
I DON'T REALLY LIKE THAT WAY OF PUTTING IT...
...AMAZING?
I-I'M SORRY... FOR IGNORING YOU THIS WHOLE TIME...
I-I... DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

B...BUT...
SAC-CHAN...
AND I WAS SURE THAT IT WAS HARD ON YOU...
I WAS WONDERING ABOUT HOW YOU FELT...
WHEN WE WERE TALKING ABOUT WHAT BOYS ARE LIKE...
A...
AND I KINDA FELT... A LITTLE SCARED, TOO...
I...I JUST DON'T GET IT...
AFTER THINKING A LOT ABOUT GIRLS LIKING GIRLS...
NORMAL ...!
SO I'M SORRY...
I'M...
!
AH!
SUPP- OSED TO MEAN...?
WHAT'S THAT

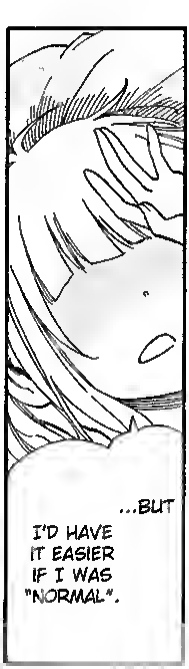
FROM THAT DAY ON, I STOPPED TALKING TO SACCHAN.
SO YOU'RE SAYING I'M NOT NORMAL...!?
TRY TO TALK TO SACCHAN AGAIN!
?
MI-CHAN!
ERM!
.....
Turn
I WANT THE THREE OF US TO HANG OUT AGAIN!
BUT IF YOU HAVEN'T MADE UP, THAT MEANS IT DIDN'T WORK, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU TALKED ABOUT,

BROKE UP LIKE IT WAS NOTHING.
FINE THEN!
OUR GROUP OF THREE
AND I JOINED ANOTHER GROUP.
AFTER THAT, THEY CONTINUED TO HANG OUT TOGETHER.
EVEN IF I HAD "FRIENDS",
THERE WAS NO POINT,
BUT NO MATTER WHAT FUN WE HAD OR WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT,
I WAS LEFT UNSATIS-FIED.

UNLESS I WAS OVER THERE...
THE BEAR AND THE RABBIT WHO LIVED
1
Author
Honey Gorilla
I WISH I HADN'T SAID IT.
...IF I WAS GONNA GO THROUGH THIS,
I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW THAT.
AND AN-CHAN SAID I WAS "AMAZING".
SACCHAN THOUGHT I "WASN'T NORMAL".
ABOUT ME,
AND THEN,
THERE, I WOULD BE REBORN TO BE "NORMAL" LIKE SACCHAN SAID,
SO I DECIDED TO GO TO A DIFFERENT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
I WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM THEM,

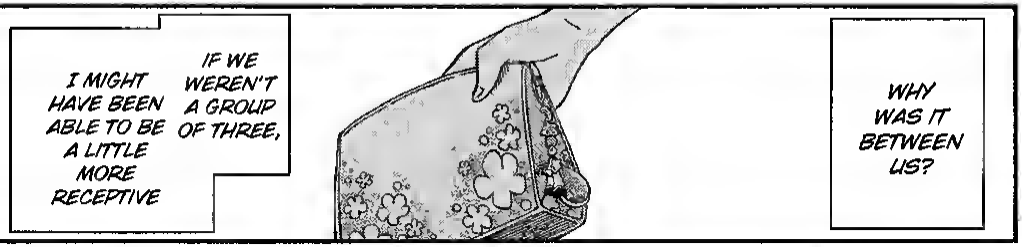

THIS TIME,
I WOULDN'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE...

I DON'T WANT TO GET HURT...
EVEN THO-UGH...
THAT'S ALL...


...BUT I'D HAVE IT EASIER IF I WAS "NORMAL".

...I KNOW THAT THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME,

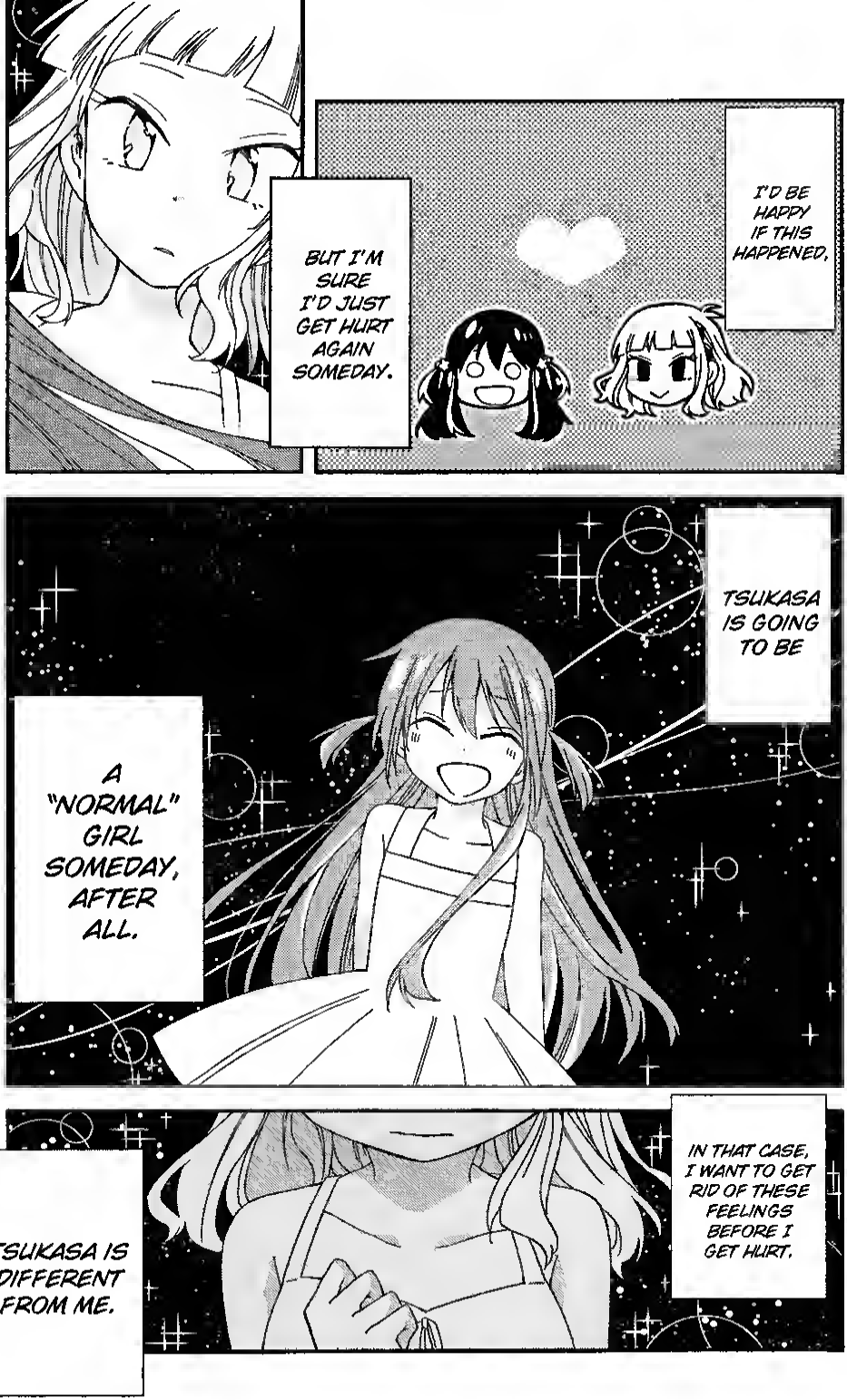
BUT THAT DISAPPEARED RIGHT AWAY.
WHEN I REALIZED HOW NADESHIKO AND TSUKASA FELT,
I WAS RELIEVED THAT THERE WERE OTHERS LIKE ME SO CLOSE BY,


I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE A LITTLE MORE RECEPTIVE
IF WE WEREN'T A GROUP OF THREE,
WHY WAS IT BETWEEN US?

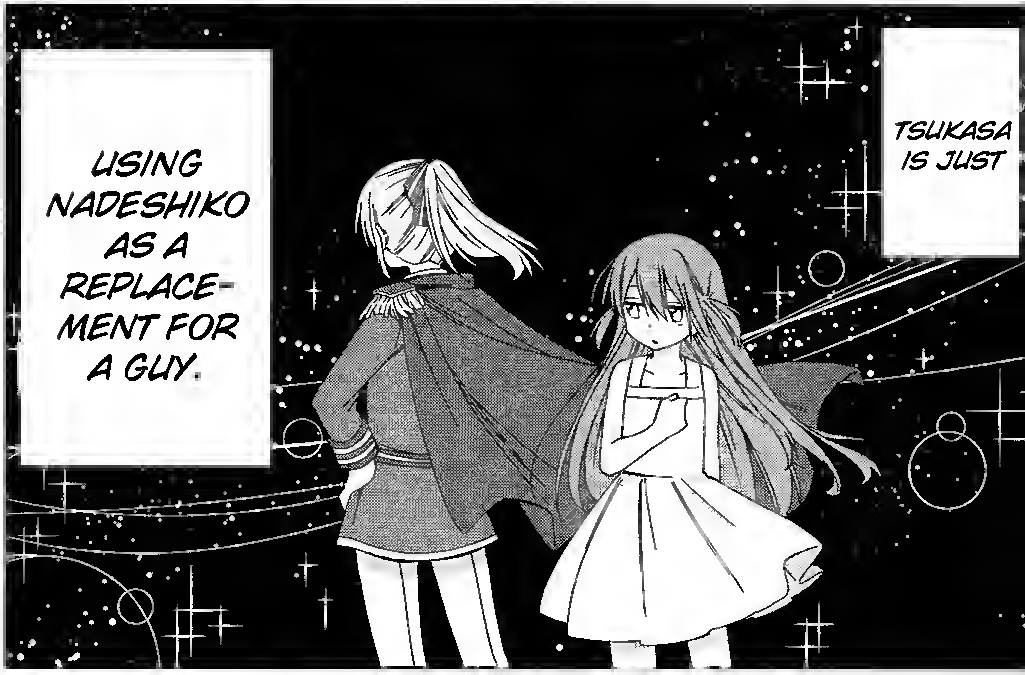
TO NADE-SHIKO'S
FEEL-INGS.

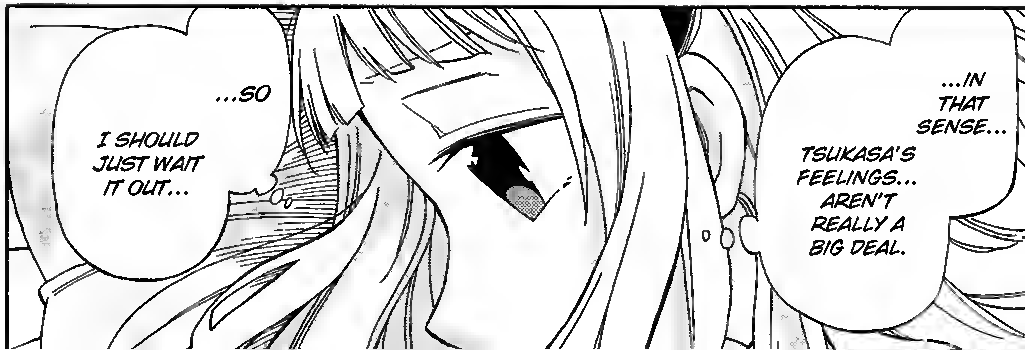
IT MADE ME A LITTLE HAPPY, TOO.
...THE TRUTH IS,

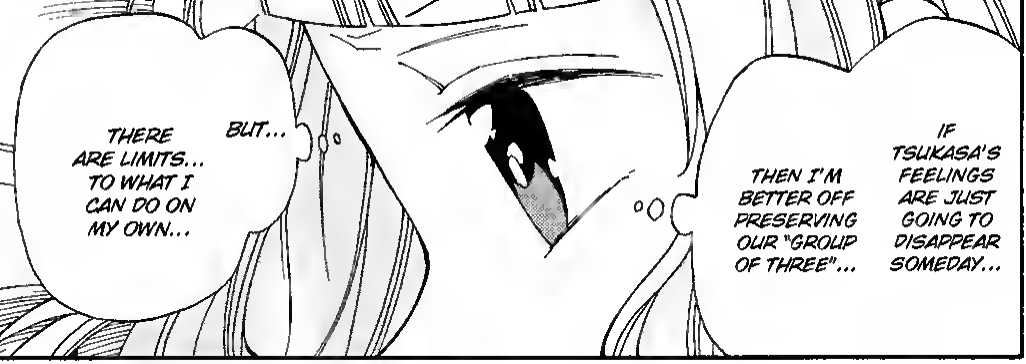
...I MEAN, I CAN'T HELP IT.
EVEN IF GUYS HAVE LIKED ME,
I NEVER HAD A GIRL LIKE ME BEFORE...
I'D HATE IT EVEN MORE BECAUSE I'D JUST BE LEFT OUT.
AND IF THIS HAPP-ENED,
I DON'T WANT TSUKASA TO HATE ME BECAUSE OF IT.
BUT IF THIS HAPPENED,


I'D BE HAPPY IF THIS HAPPENED,
BUT I'M SURE I'D JUST GET HURT AGAIN SOMEDAY.
TSUKASA IS GOING TO BE
A "NORMAL" GIRL SOMEDAY, AFTER ALL.
IN THAT CASE, I WANT TO GET RID OF THESE FEELINGS BEFORE I GET HURT.
TSUKASA IS DIFFERENT FROM ME.

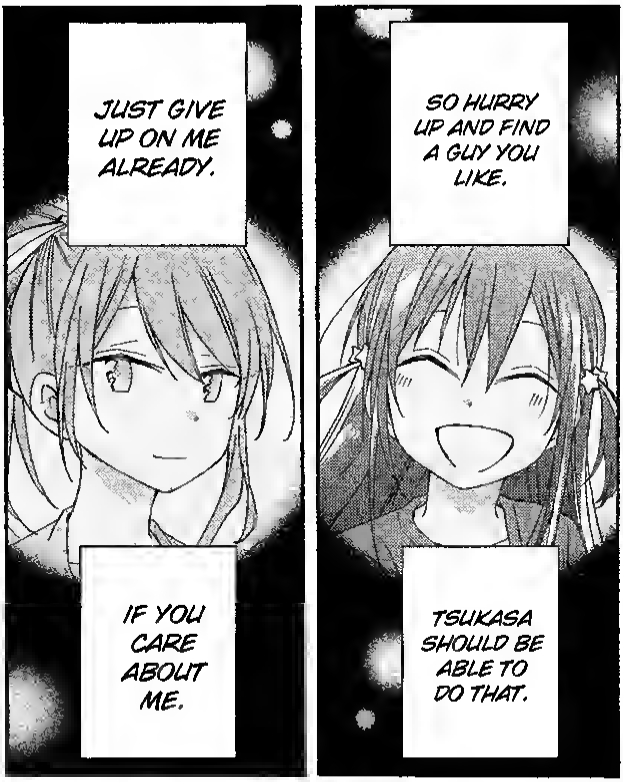
LIKE WHEN ASAKURA-KUN CONFESSED TO HER.
AND I CAN KINDA SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.
IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S CALLED "COMMON",
It's very natural to temporarily develop interest in the same sex during puberty.
In most cases, t
feelings eventu
disappear.

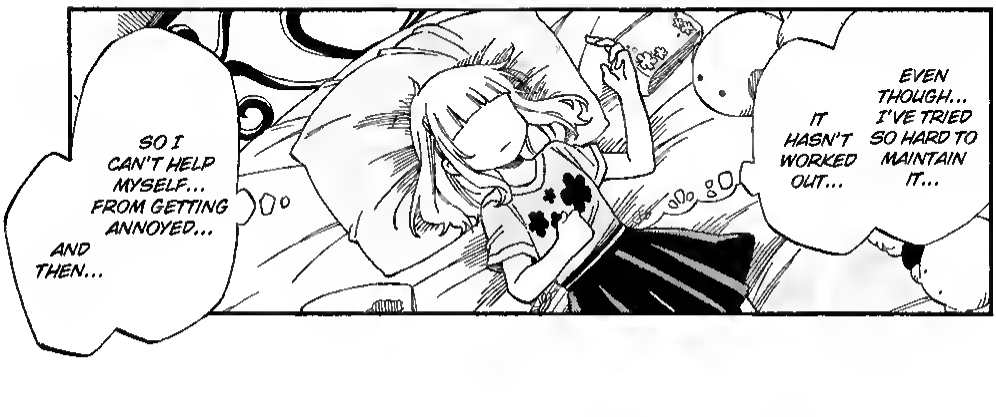

USING NADESHIKO AS A REPLACE-MENT FOR A GUY.
TSUKASA IS JUST


...SO I SHOULD JUST WAIT IT OUT...
...IN THAT SENSE... TSUKASA'S FEELINGS... AREN'T REALLY A BIG DEAL.


IF TSUKASA'S FEELINGS ARE JUST GOING TO DISAPPEAR SOMEDAY...
THEN I'M BETTER OFF PRESERVING OUR "GROUP OF THREE"...
BUT...
THERE ARE LIMITS... TO WHAT I CAN DO ON MY OWN...

WORK WITH ME TO PROTECT OUR "GROUP OF THREE".


JUST GIVE UP ON ME ALREADY.
IF YOU CARE ABOUT ME.
SO HURRY UP AND FIND A GUY YOU LIKE.
TSUKASA SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THAT.


EVEN THOUGH... I'VE TRIED SO HARD TO MAINTAIN IT...
IT HASN'T WORKED OUT...
SO I CAN'T HELP MYSELF... FROM GETTING ANNOYED...
AND THEN...

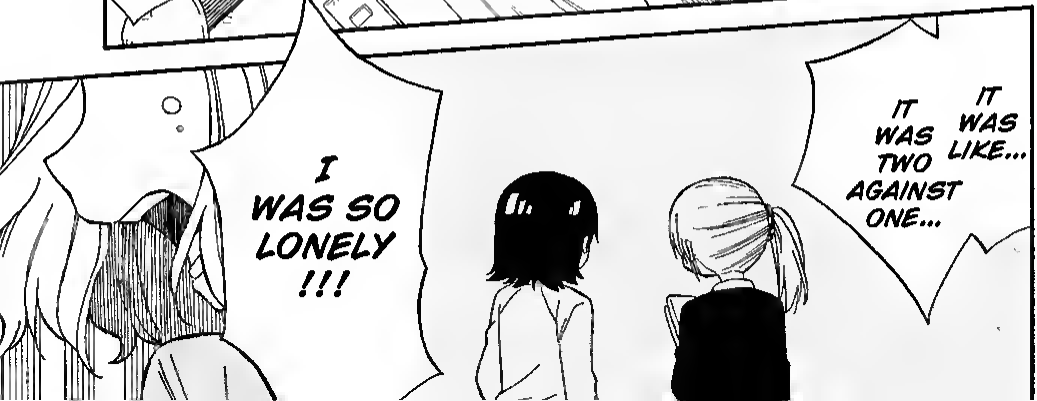
I HAD TRIED TO MAINTAIN OUR RELATION-SHIP...
EVEN THOUGH I TRIED TO DESTROY IT ONCE BEFORE,
IT'S LIKE I'M THE ONE WHO ENDS UP BEING THE BAD GUY...
AND NOW I'M THE ONE WHO'S HURT THE MOST...
IN THE END, ALL I DID WAS DESTROY IT MYSELF...
SOME-ONE...
Mutter
HELP ME...

KOTOOKA?
KNOCK
KNOCK
YOUR MOM SAID IT WAS OKAY FOR ME TO COME UP...
Ahhh.
SORRY FOR COMING OVER ALL OF A SUDDEN...
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU,
SO I'M COMING IN!

WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR!?
WHAT...!? YOU DIDN'T EVEN CALL ME...
FREEZE
DO-
DON'T COME IN!!!
WHY!?!
WHY!?
WHY!?
TO APOLOGIZE.
LET'S GO SEE WASHIO TOGETHER

WHY AREN'T YOU MORE ON MY SIDE...!?
...KOTOOKA?

WHEN I... WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL... I HAD TWO CLOSE FRIENDS...
WHO ARE JUST LIKE... YOU AND NADE-SHIKO RIGHT NOW...
I GOT... ON BAD TERMS... WITH ONE OF THEM...
AND THEN ...

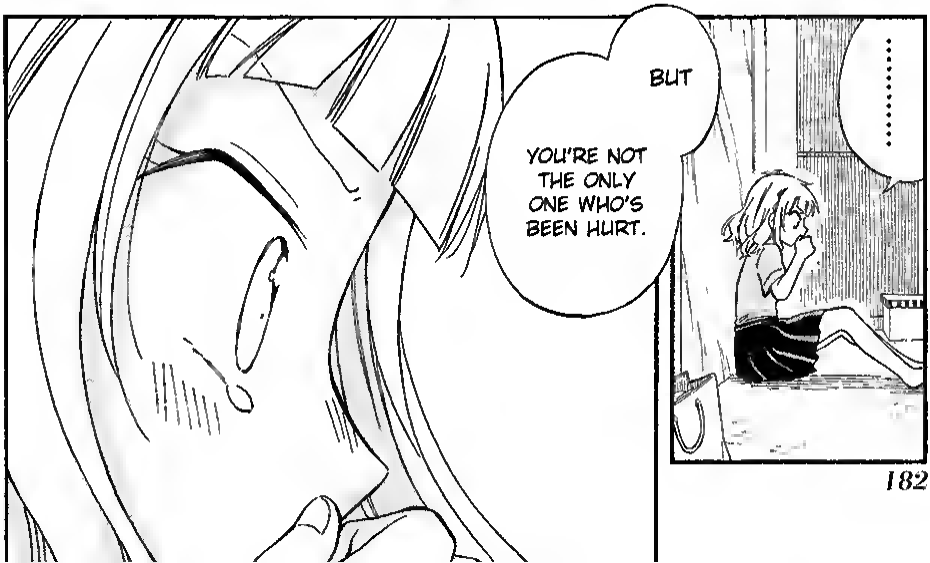

IT WAS LIKE... IT WAS TWO AGAINST ONE...
I WAS SO LONELY !!!

I WAS ALREADY AT MY LIMIT WHEN OGAWA-SAN SHOWED UP...
I...I WAS REALLY SAD!!
THAT WAS REALLY TRAUMATIC FOR ME!!!
SO I JUST SNAPPED!
AND NADESHIKO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT ME, EITHER...
ギュ…
ACTING LIKE THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!
AND YET... YOU'RE...
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE!!!
I WANTED YOU TO CARE MORE ABOUT ME!!
I WANTED YOU... TO BE NICER TO ME...!

EVEN IF YOU TWO DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT, YOU'RE NOT BLAMELESS...!!
WAAAAA!
DON'T HURT ME ANYMORE ...!!
...I SEE...
...KOTOOKA...
WAAAAA!

YOU'VE REALLY HAD A TOUGH TIME.

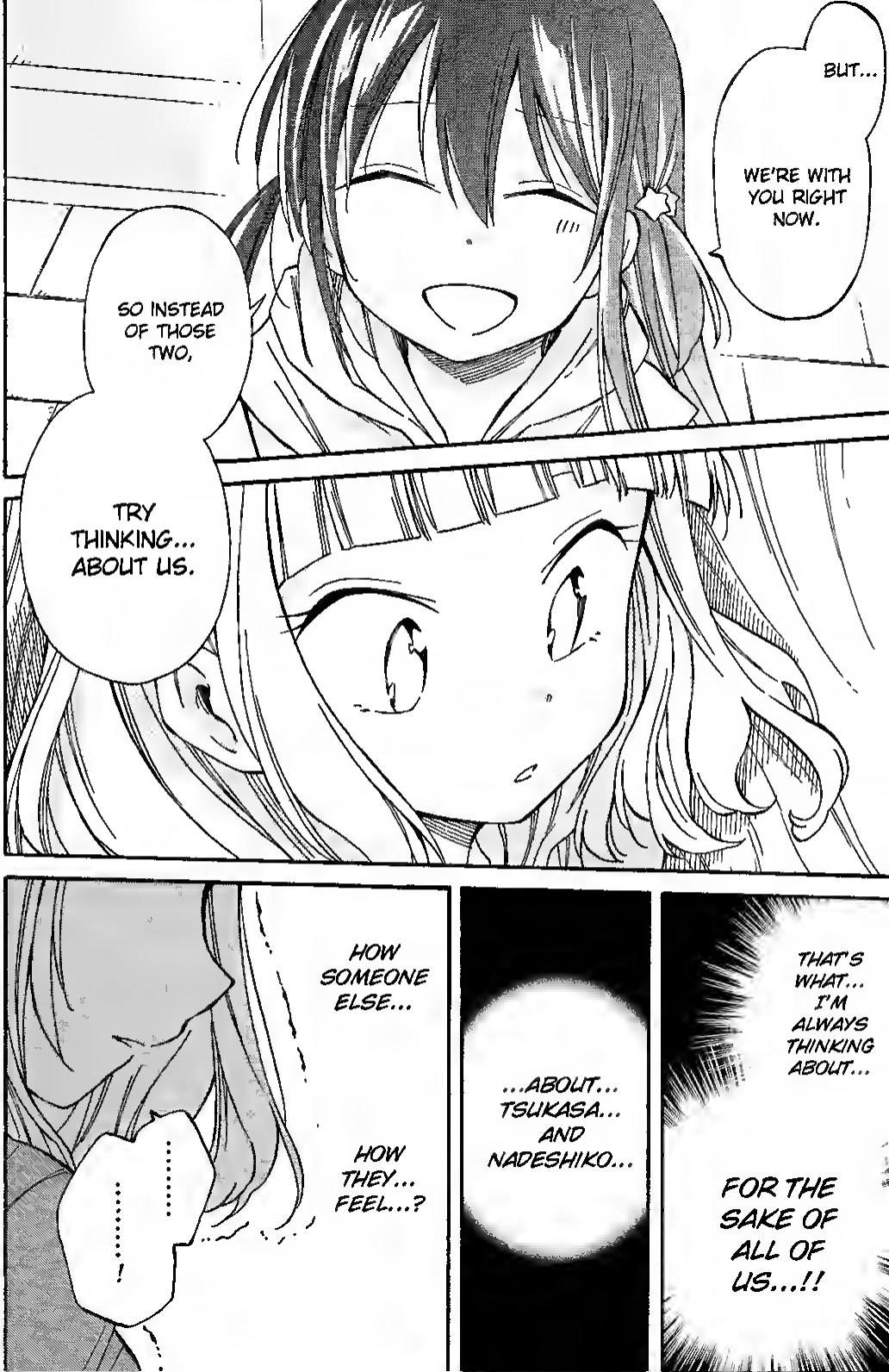
I'M SORRY FOR NOT NOTICING ANYTHING.
I... HURT YOU WITHOUT REALIZING IT.


BUT YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S BEEN HURT.
.....

THAT YOU CAN'T STAND IS PRETTY INTENSE...
...SERIOUSLY BEING TOLD THERE'S A PART OF ME
.....!
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WERE HURT BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SAID.
NO MATTER THE REASON,
YOU'RE NOT BLAMELESS, EITHER.
SO DON'T IGNORE THAT
WHILE ACTING LIKE
YOU'RE THE ONLY TRAGIC HEROINE HERE!
.....!

SOMEONE'S PAIN BELONGS ONLY TO THEM!
DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU GUYS!
WHAT I'M DEALING WITH IS DIFF...
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE ONE ON THE RECEIVING END!!!
DON'T DECIDE HOW SOMEONE ELSE FEELS ON YOUR OWN!!
...HOW SOMEONE ELSE... FEELS?
...EVEN WITH OGAWA-SAN...
WASHIO... AND I... WERE ON YOUR SIDE,
BUT

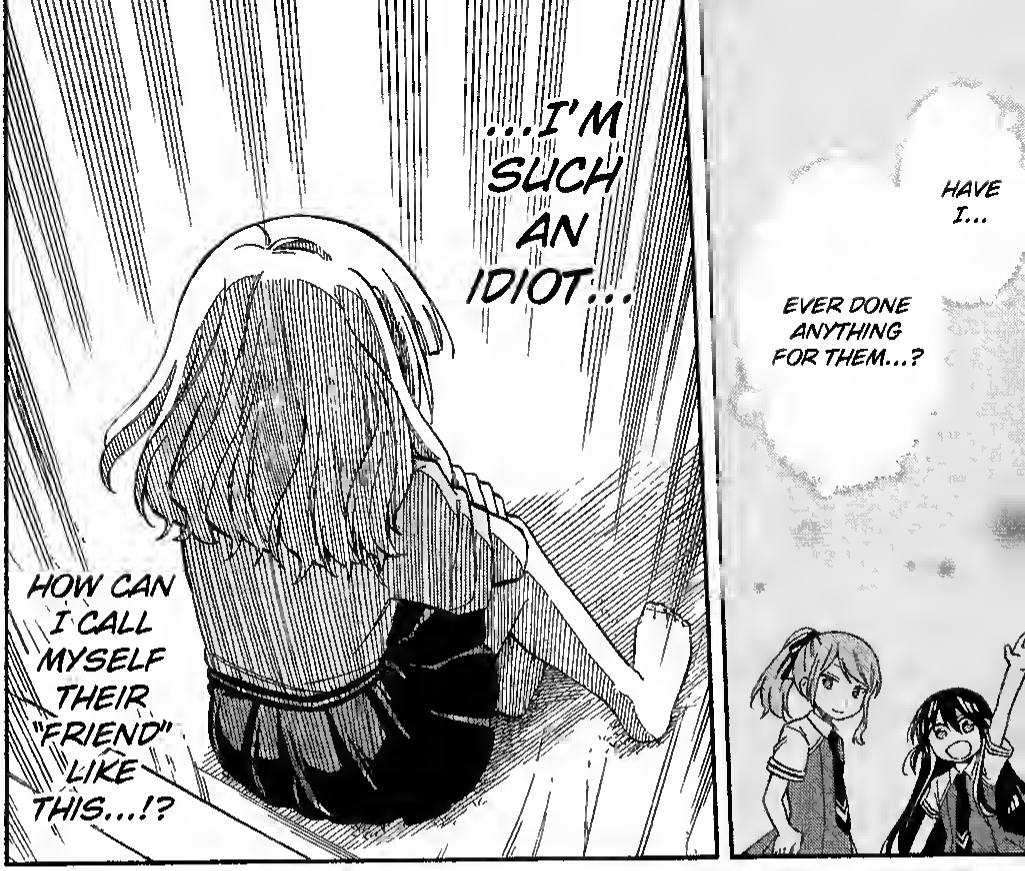
SAID THAT...
BECAUSE SHE CARES ABOUT YOU.
...AND EVEN WASHIO
I DON'T WANT TO BE ON YOUR SIDE WHEN IT HAS TO DO WITH YOU SAYING THINGS OUT OF LINE.
THAT WOULDN'T BE HELPING YOU OUT.
Whew...
UM... THOSE TWO YOU FOUGHT WITH IN GRADE SCHOOL...
ARE WHO YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID "THOSE TWO" BEFORE... RIGHT?
"JUST LIKE THOSE TWO...!!"
WHAT HAPPENED?
...I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO IT.
...I SEE.
OKAY.


BUT...
WE'RE WITH YOU RIGHT NOW.
SO INSTEAD OF THOSE TWO,
TRY THINKING... ABOUT US.
HOW SOMEONE ELSE...
HOW THEY... FEEL...?
.....!
...ABOUT... TSUKASA... AND NADESHIKO...
THAT'S WHAT... I'M ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT...
FOR THE SAKE OF ALL OF US...!!

"THEN WORK HARDER
...I...
FOR MY SAKE."
Mutter
I WASN'T... THINKING ABOUT THEM AT ALL...

I THOUGHT THEIR FEELINGS JUST GOT IN THE WAY OF OUR GROUP...SO BEFORE I KNEW IT... I HAD FORGOTTEN TO THINK ABOUT THEM...

I NEVER... THOUGHT ABOUT ANYTHING...
I LOOKED DOWN ON THEM
BECAUSE THEY "HAD IT EASIER".
SO I WAS JEALOUS.
I THOUGHT THAT PEOPLE WHO CAN FALL IN LOVE WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX WERE BETTER OFF.
MI-CHAN...
UM...
BEFORE WE GRADU-ATE..
...JUST STOP!
DON'T TRY TO ACT LIKE YOU'RE MY FRIEND AT THIS POINT...
YOU'RE THE ONE... THAT TREATED ME DIFFER-ENTLY...!!
NOT EVEN...
HOW SACCHAN FELT...

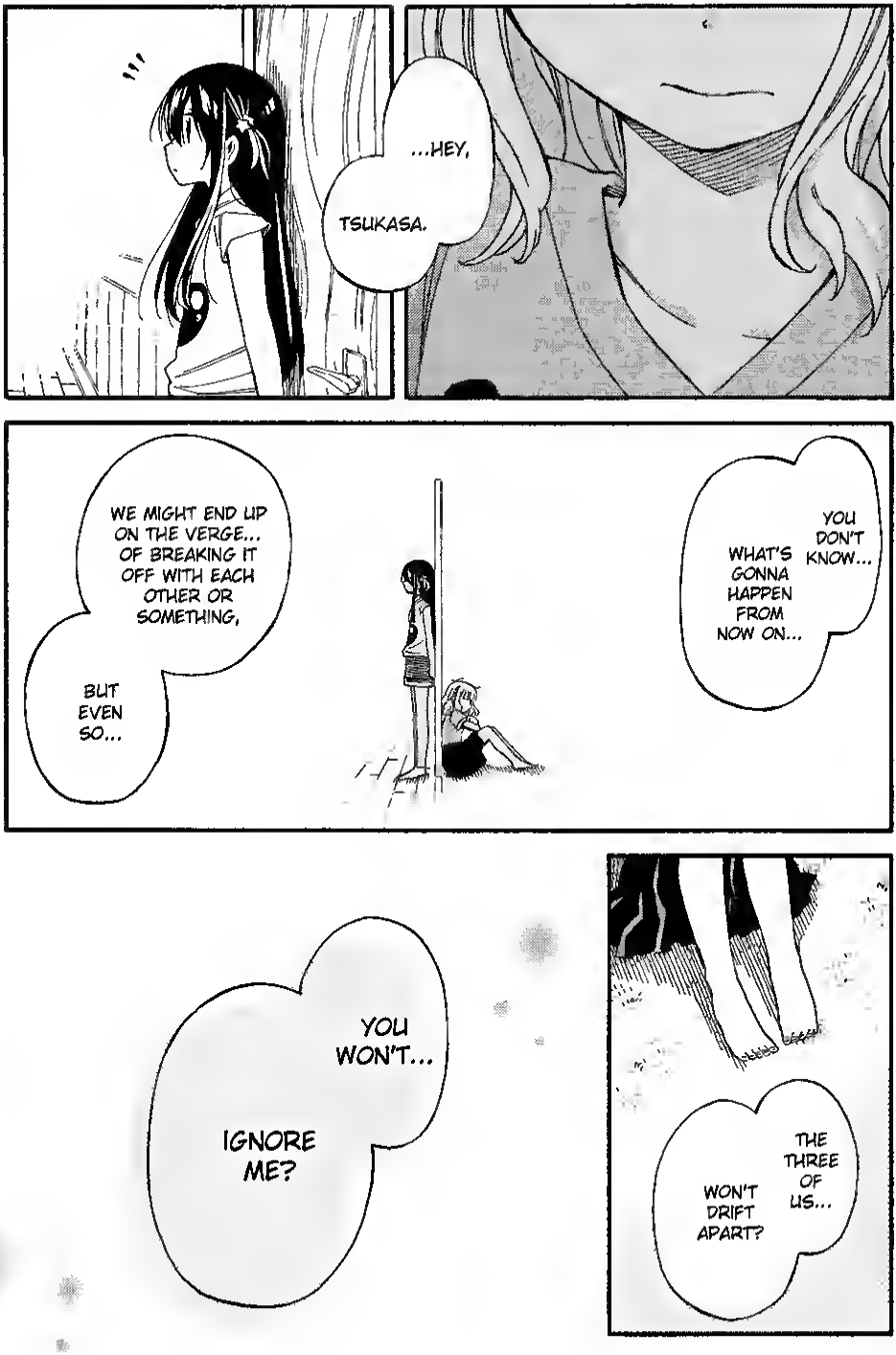

...I'M SUCH AN IDIOT...
HOW CAN I CALL MYSELF THEIR "FRIEND" LIKE THIS...!?
HAVE I...
EVER DONE ANYTHING FOR THEM...?

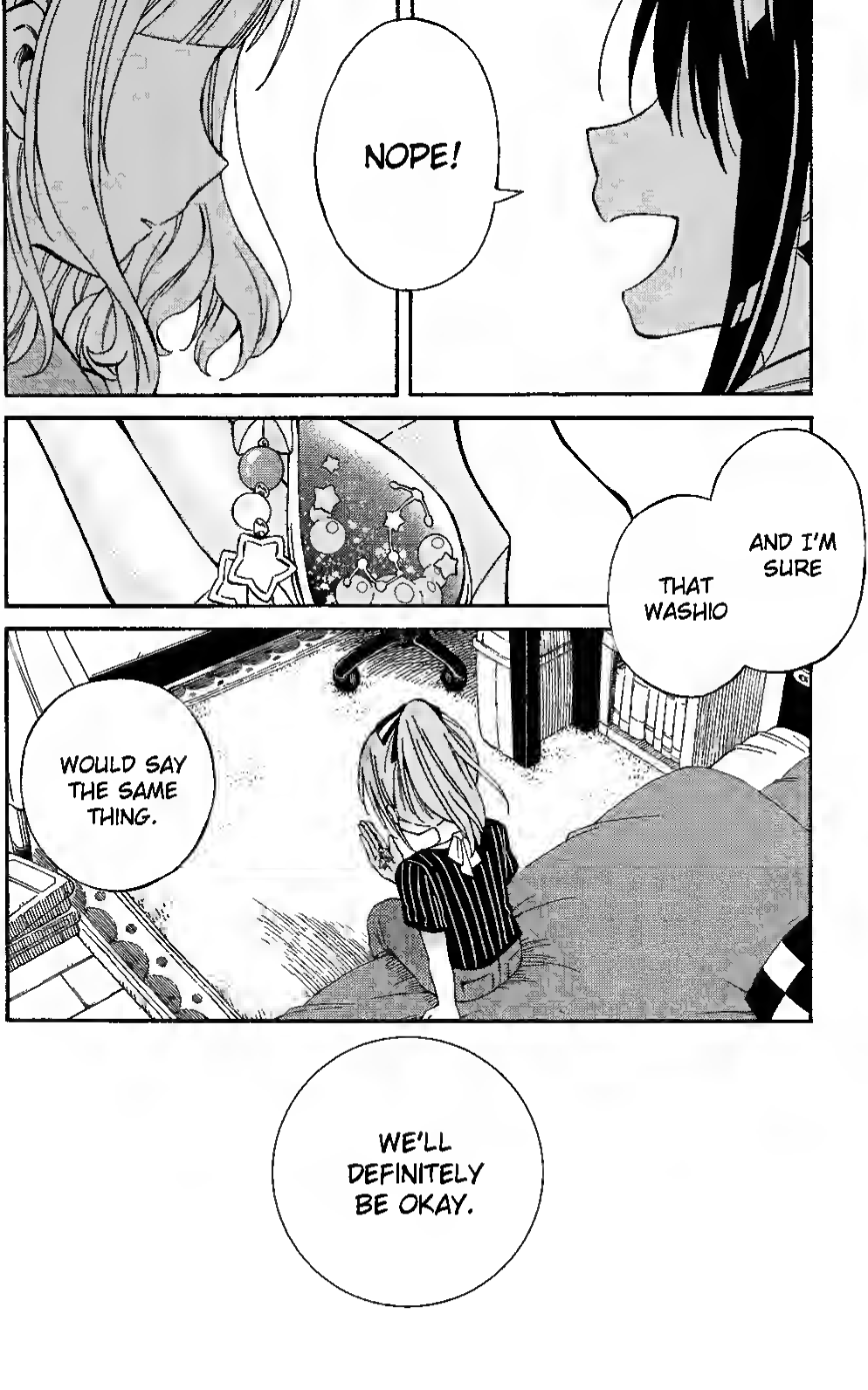
...I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT... TO BE THEIR FRIEND...

YOU REALLY HAVE A BAD PERSONALITY.
THUD
BESIDES, SPEAKING OF BAD GUYS...

...BUT EVEN SO, WE'RE STILL WITH YOU.
BUT WASHIO AND I HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THAT FOR A LONG TIME NOW.
#!
AND YOU ALWAYS MAKE YUMMY TREATS FOR US.
YOU SET THE MOOD AND YOU'RE FUN TO BE AROUND.
EVEN ON MY BIRTHDAY, YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING I WANTED,
DONE THINGS... FOR THEM, TOO...
SNIFF
SO I'VE...

THAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU!
THERE ARE A BUNCH OF THINGS
WASN'T TO TRY TO BE "NORMAL"...
WHAT I... SHOULD HAVE BEEN DOING...
IT WAS THAT I SHOULD HAVE PROPERLY COMMUNICATED WITH MY FRIENDS...


...HEY,
TSUKASA.
WE MIGHT END UP ON THE VERGE... OF BREAKING IT OFF WITH EACH OTHER OR SOMETHING,
BUT EVEN SO...
YOU DON'T KNOW... WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN FROM NOW ON...
YOU WON'T... IGNORE ME?
THE THREE OF US... WON'T DRIFT APART?


NOPE!
AND I'M SURE THAT WASHIO WOULD SAY THE SAME THING.
WE'LL DEFINITELY BE OKAY.

FIRST OF ALL,
SO DON'T WORRY, KOTOOKA.
LET'S GO BACK
TO ALL THREE OF US BEING TOGETHER LIKE ALWAYS.

I'LL TAKE YOU
TO SEE WASHIO!